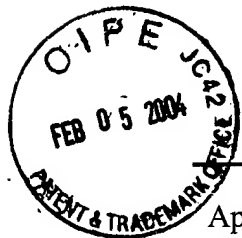


2876

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



Application No.: 09/675,264
Filed: September 28, 2000
Inventor:
Nobuyoshi Morimoto

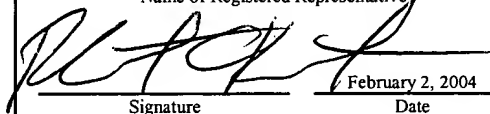
Title: PROCESSING
APPARATUS AND
CONTAINER FOR
SHIPPING ITEMS

§ Examiner: Fureman, Jared
§ Group/Art Unit: 2876
§ Atty. Dkt. No: 5596-00500
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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date indicated below.

Robert C. Kowert

Name of Registered Representative


Signature Date

February 2, 2004

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION OF
OCTOBER 31, 2003

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This paper is submitted in response to the Office Action of October 31, 2003, to further highlight why the application is in condition for allowance.

Please amend the case as listed below.